

# The Trail Inventory of Wheeler NWR

Decatur, AL



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Federal Highway Administration  
Central Federal Lands Highway Division  
May, 2013



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## **NOTE TO USERS OR READERS**

In this report, the reader may find a mix of dates associated with the condition assessment and photographs. Chapter 4 shows an updated condition assessment for each trail documented in this report. However there may be dates on the condition assessment pages that range from 2006 and 2007 to 2012. This occurred because the GPS dates of the trails originally rated in Cycle 1 were not updated when the cycle 3 assessment was done to in

2012. That GPS date is the basis for the Rating date in the report. Any new trail or section of trail that was collected and rated in Cycle 3 will have a rating date of 2012. While the rating dates may show a pre 2012 date, each trail was walked and its condition was assessed in 2012 during the Cycle 3 field season.

In Chapter 6 the reader may notice photographs with dates ranging from 2006 and 2007 to 2012. This occurs because the existing photographs from Cycle 1 were used if no significant or noticeable changes were seen in that location at the time of the Cycle 3 site visit.

The reader may also notice some of the feature photographs are used more than once. The practice of the same photograph being used for more than one feature was allowed during this cycle's data collection.

# Wheeler NWR

## Trail and Trail Feature Summaries

Trail Miles and Percentages by Surface Type and Condition

Trail Surface Type	Excellent		Total
	Miles	%	Miles
Gravel	3.12	100%	3.12
Asphalt	0.02	100%	0.02
Boardwalk	0.40	100%	0.40
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.54</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3.54</b>

Trail Miles and Percentages by Trail Classification and Condition

Trail Classification	Excellent		Total
	Miles	%	Miles
TC3	3.12	100%	3.12
TC5	0.42	100%	0.42
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.54</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3.54</b>

\*Admin Roads are included in the inventory but are not rated for condition.



## Trail Features

Trail Number	Feature Type	Quantity	Grouped Feature	Milepost	Photo
T300	Trailhead	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_0016
T300	Sign	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_0017
T300	Sign	1	No	0.01	WHEEL_C3_0018
T300	Culvert -lf	12	No	0.03	
T300	Sign	9	Yes	0.05	WHEEL_C3_0707
T300	Bridge -sf	315	No	0.51	WHEEL_C3_0019
T300	Political Boundary	1	No	1.18	
T301	Trailhead	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_0022
T301	Sign	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_0023
T301	Sign	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_0711
T301	Sign	1	No	0.02	WHEEL_C3_0024
T301	Culvert -lf	10	No	0.03	
T301	Sign	1	No	0.23	WHEEL_C3_0712
T301	Sign	1	No	0.23	WHEEL_C3_0025
T301	Begin Section	1	No	0.23	WHEEL_C3_0026
T301	Lookout/Ob Deck	1	No	0.49	
T500	Culvert -lf	10	No	0.00	
T500	Trailhead	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_0001
T500	Sign	1	No	0.02	WHEEL_C3_0697
T500	Begin Section	1	No	0.02	WHEEL_C3_0003
T500	Sign	1	No	0.02	WHEEL_C3_0002
T500	Begin Section	1	No	0.10	WHEEL_C3_0706
T500	Sign	1	No	0.10	WHEEL_C3_0698
T500	Boardwalk -lf	85	No	0.18	WHEEL_C3_0004
T500	Culvert -lf	8	No	0.21	

T500	Begin Section	1	No	0.23	WHEEL_C3_00 05
T500	Begin Section	1	No	0.27	
T500	Sign	26	Yes	0.28	WHEEL_C3_06 99
T500	Bench	1	No	0.37	
T500	Bench	1	No	0.71	
T501	Sign	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_00 07
T501	Trailhead	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_00 08
T501	Sign	9	Yes	0.01	WHEEL_C3_07 00
T501	Begin Section	1	No	0.01	WHEEL_C3_00 10
T501	Begin Section	1	No	0.07	
T501	Bridge -sf	243	No	0.10	WHEEL_C3_00 11
T501	Sign	9	Yes	0.12	WHEEL_C3_07 01
T501	Bench	1	No	0.25	
T501	Culvert -lf	9	No	0.35	
T502	Sign	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_00 12
T502	Trailhead	1	No	0.00	WHEEL_C3_00 13
T502	Sign	4	Yes	0.01	WHEEL_C3_07 03
T502	Bench	1	No	0.01	
T502	Sign	5	Yes	0.02	WHEEL_C3_07 04
T502	Sign	1	No	0.02	WHEEL_C3_00 14
T502	Bench	1	No	0.04	
T502	Bridge -sf	91	No	0.06	WHEEL_C3_00 15
T502	Culvert -lf	10	No	0.07	
T502	Sign	1	No	0.08	WHEEL_C3_07 05
T502	Other	1	No	0.11	

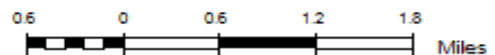
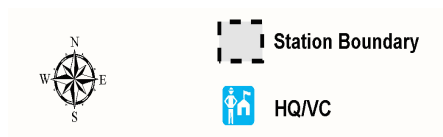
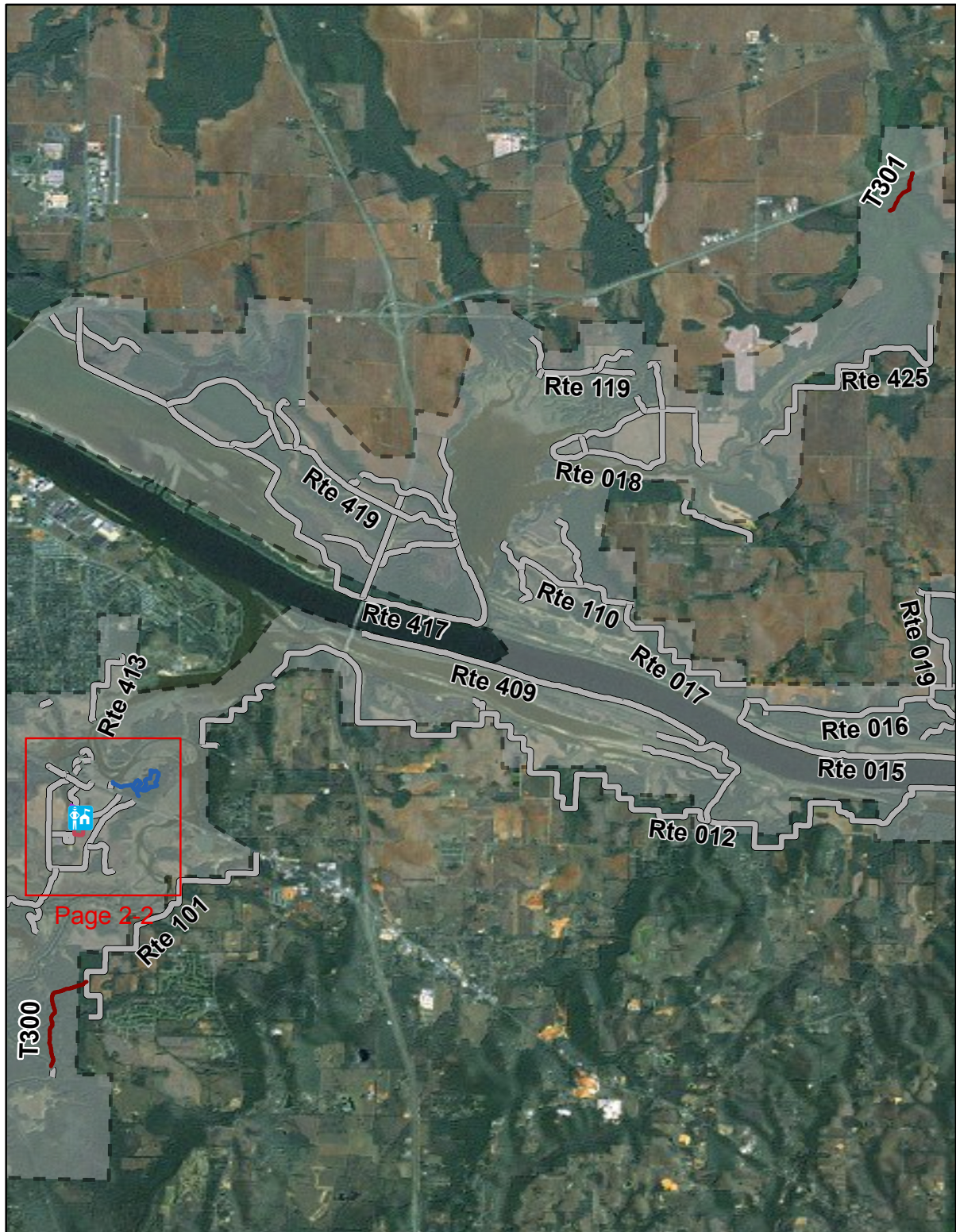
sf - square feet

lf - linear feet

cf - cubic feet

# Wheeler NWR

## Trail Location Map





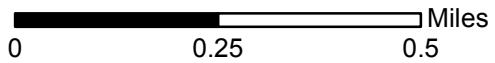
# Wheeler NWR Trail Location Map



Station Boundary



HQ/VC



## Trails ID

**Station Name: Wheeler NWR**

**Org Code: 43660**

Trail Number	Trail Name	Surface Type	SAMMS	Trail Mileage	Trail Description (Begin and End point of trail)
T300	Dancy Bottoms Nature Trail	Gravel	10019440	1.18	From Dancy Bottoms Parking (Rte 904) to Bean Place Road (Rte 101)
T301	Beaver Dam Boardwalk Trail	Boardwalk	10019444	0.26	From Old HWY 20 Parking lot to Observation Platform
T301	Beaver Dam Boardwalk Trail	Gravel	10019444	0.23	From Old HWY 20 Parking lot to Observation Platform
T500	Flint Creek Trail	Asphalt	10019442	0.02	From Handicapped Fishing (Rte 901) to end of loop
T500	Flint Creek Trail	Boardwalk	10019442	0.08	From Handicapped Fishing (Rte 901) to end of loop
T500	Flint Creek Trail	Gravel	10019442	1.20	From Handicapped Fishing (Rte 901) to end of loop
T501	Atkeson Cypress Trail	Boardwalk	10019441	0.06	From Visitor Center Parking (Rte 902) to End of Loop
T501	Atkeson Cypress Trail	Gravel	10019441	0.40	From Visitor Center Parking (Rte 902) to End of Loop
T502	Wildlife Observation Building Trail	Gravel	10019446	0.11	From Visitor Center Parking (Rte 902) to Wildlife Observation Building

# CHANGES TO THE FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE TRAIL INVENTORY REPORT

## Wheeler NWR

### Trails added to previous inventory:

Trail #	Trail Name	Reason for Addition
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### Trails removed from previous inventory:

Trail #	Trail Name	Reason for Removal
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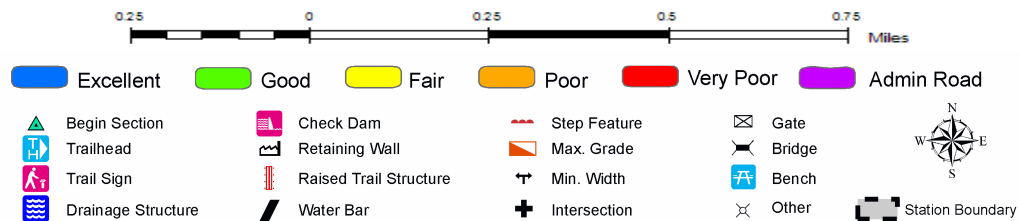
### Trails modified from previous inventory:

Trail #	Trail Name	Type of Modification	Description of Modification
T301	Beaver Dam Boardwalk Trail	Name change	to Beaver Dam Boardwalk
T502	Wildlife Observation Building Trail	Name change	to Wildlife Observation Building

### Comments:



## TRAIL CONDITION



**Trail Name:** Dancy Bottoms Nature Trail  
**Trail Number:** T300

**Refuge Name:** Wheeler NWR  
**Region:** 4

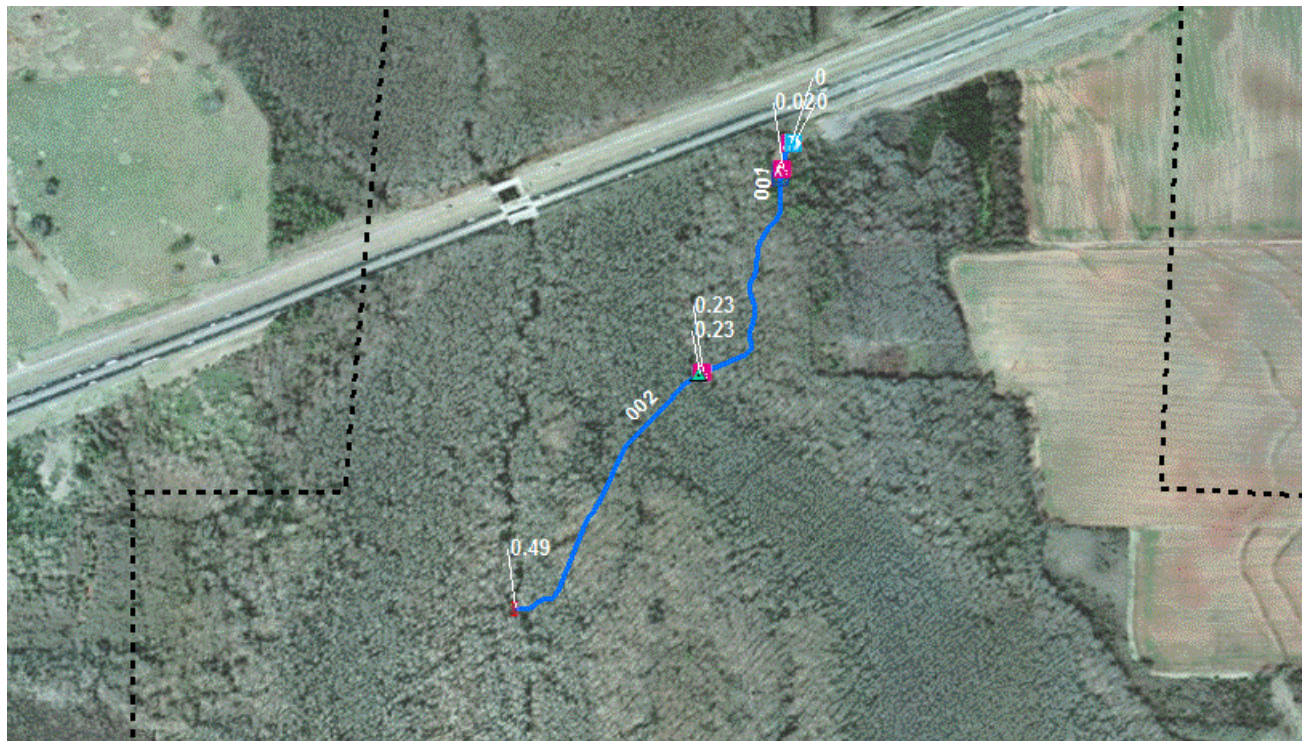
**Total Length:** 1.18 Miles

Section Number	001
Section Length (miles)	1.18
SAMMS Number	10019440
Rating Date	06/26/2006
<b>Trail Section Information</b>	
Trail Class	TC3
Surface Type	Gravel
Surface Firmness	Firm
Width (inches)	48
Average Grade (%)	
Average X-slope (%)	
<b>Trail Condition Information</b>	
Deferred Maintenance	\$731
CRV	\$102,280
FCI	0.00
Condition	Excellent

### Trail Condition TOTALS

Deferred Maintenance	CRV	FCI	Condition
\$731	\$102,280	0.00	Excellent

## TRAIL CONDITION



**Trail Name:** Beaver Dam Boardwalk Trail  
**Trail Number:** T301

**Refuge Name:** Wheeler NWR  
**Region:** 4

**Total Length:** 0.49 Miles

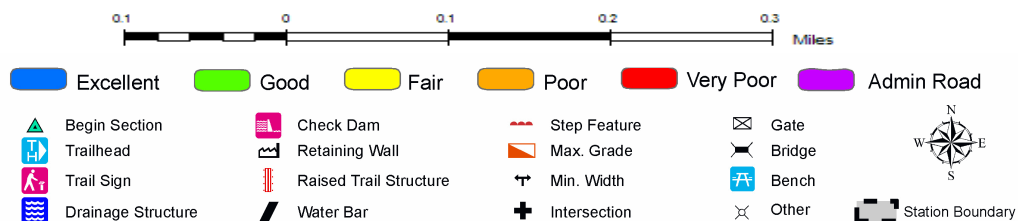
Section Number	001	002
Section Length (miles)	0.23	0.26
SAMMS Number	10019444	10019444
Rating Date	06/26/2006	06/26/2006
<b>Trail Section Information</b>		
Trail Class	TC3	TC5
Surface Type	Gravel	Boardwalk
Surface Firmness	Hard	Hard
Width (inches)	60	60
Average Grade (%)		
Average X-slope (%)		
<b>Trail Condition Information</b>		
Deferred Maintenance	\$161	\$1,535
CRV	\$24,919	\$139,610
FCI	0.01	0.01
Condition	Excellent	Excellent

### Trail Condition TOTALS

Deferred Maintenance	CRV	FCI	Condition
\$1,696	\$164,530	0.01	



## TRAIL CONDITION



**Trail Name:** Flint Creek Trail

**Refuge Name:** Wheeler NWR

**Trail Number:** T500

**Region:** 4

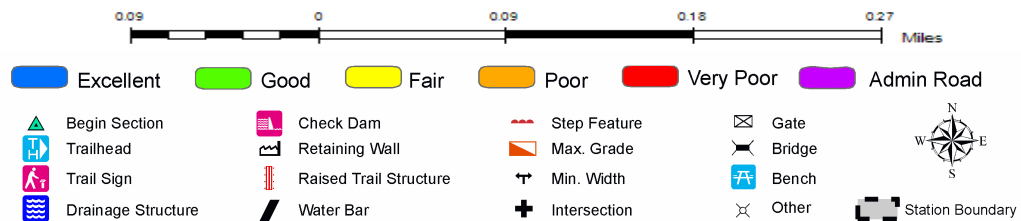
**Total Length:** 1.30 Miles

Section Number	001	002	003	004	005
Section Length (miles)	0.02	0.08	0.91	0.22	0.07
SAMMS Number	10019442	10019442	10019442	10019442	10019442
Rating Date	06/26/2006	06/26/2006	06/26/2006	06/26/2006	06/26/2006
<b>Trail Section Information</b>					
Trail Class	TC5	TC5	TC3	TC3	TC3
Surface Type	Asphalt	Boardwalk	Gravel	Gravel	Gravel
Surface Firmness	Paved	Hard	Hard	Hard	Hard
Width (inches)	96	96	96	96	96
Average Grade (%)					
Average X-slope (%)					
<b>Trail Condition Information</b>					
Deferred Maintenance					
CRV	\$4,447	\$68,727	\$157,750	\$38,138	\$12,136
FCI	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Condition	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

### Trail Condition TOTALS

Deferred Maintenance	CRV	FCI	Condition
	\$281,198	0.00	Excellent

## TRAIL CONDITION



**Trail Name:** Atkeson Cypress Trail  
**Trail Number:** T501

**Refuge Name:** Wheeler NWR  
**Region:** 4

**Total Length:** 0.46 Miles

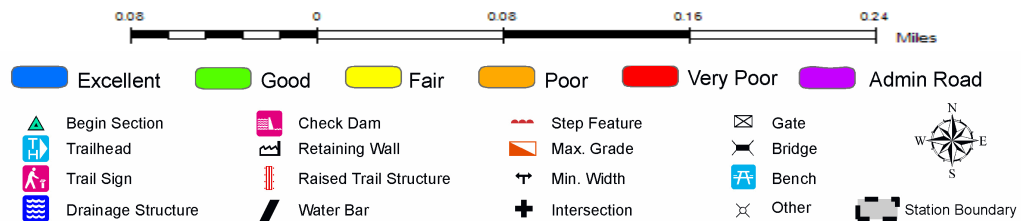
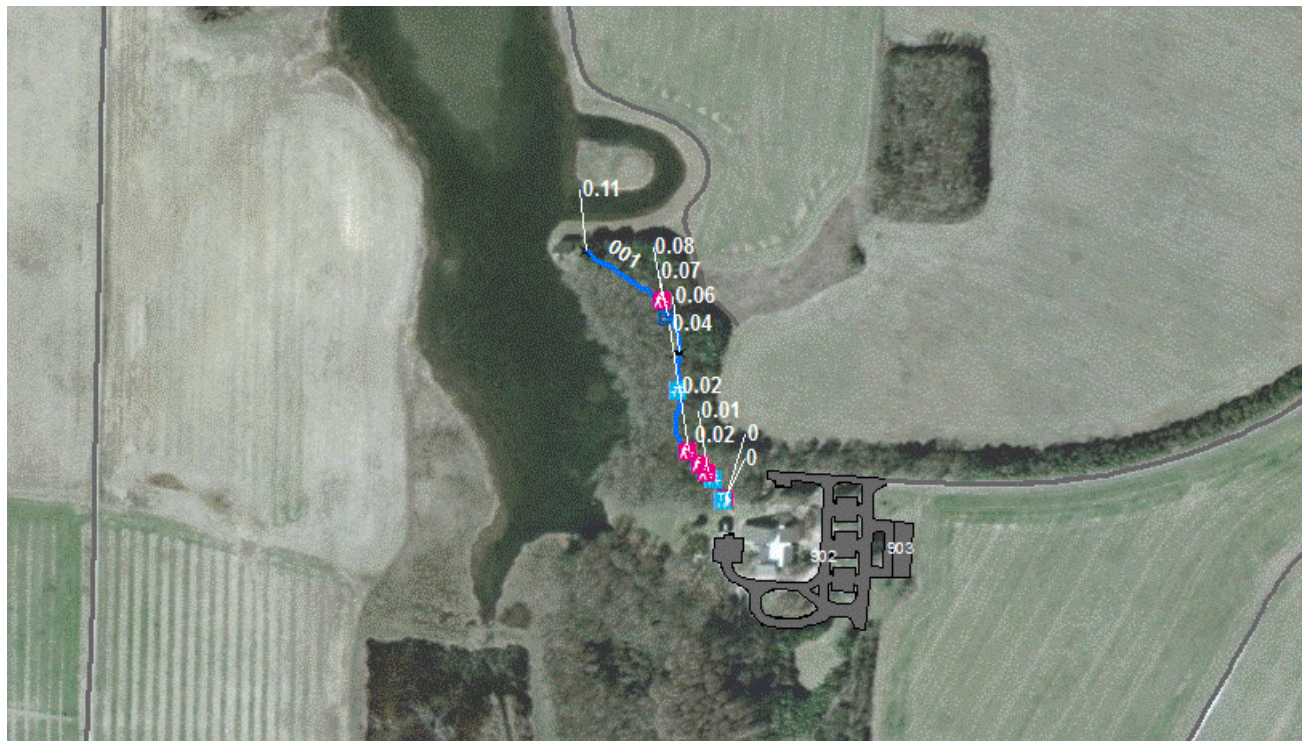
Section Number	001	002	003
Section Length (miles)	0.01	0.06	0.39
SAMMS Number	10019441	10019441	10019441
Rating Date	06/26/2006	06/26/2006	06/26/2006
<b>Trail Section Information</b>			
Trail Class	TC3	TC5	TC3
Surface Type	Gravel	Boardwalk	Gravel
Surface Firmness	Hard	Hard	Hard
Width (inches)	72	72	72
Average Grade (%)			
Average X-slope (%)			
<b>Trail Condition Information</b>			
Deferred Maintenance			
CRV	\$1,301	\$38,665	\$50,705
FCI	0.00	0.00	0.00
Condition	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

### Trail Condition TOTALS

Deferred Maintenance	CRV	FCI	Condition
	\$90,671	0.00	Excellent



## TRAIL CONDITION



**Trail Name:** Wildlife Observation Building Trail **Refuge Name:** Wheeler NWR

**Trail Number:** T502

**Region:** 4

**Total Length:** 0.11 Miles

Section Number	001
Section Length (miles)	0.11
SAMMS Number	10019446
Rating Date	06/26/2006
<b>Trail Section Information</b>	
Trail Class	TC3
Surface Type	Gravel
Surface Firmness	Hard
Width (inches)	72
Average Grade (%)	
Average X-slope (%)	
<b>Trail Condition Information</b>	
Deferred Maintenance	
CRV	\$14,302
FCI	0.00
Condition	Excellent

### Trail Condition TOTALS

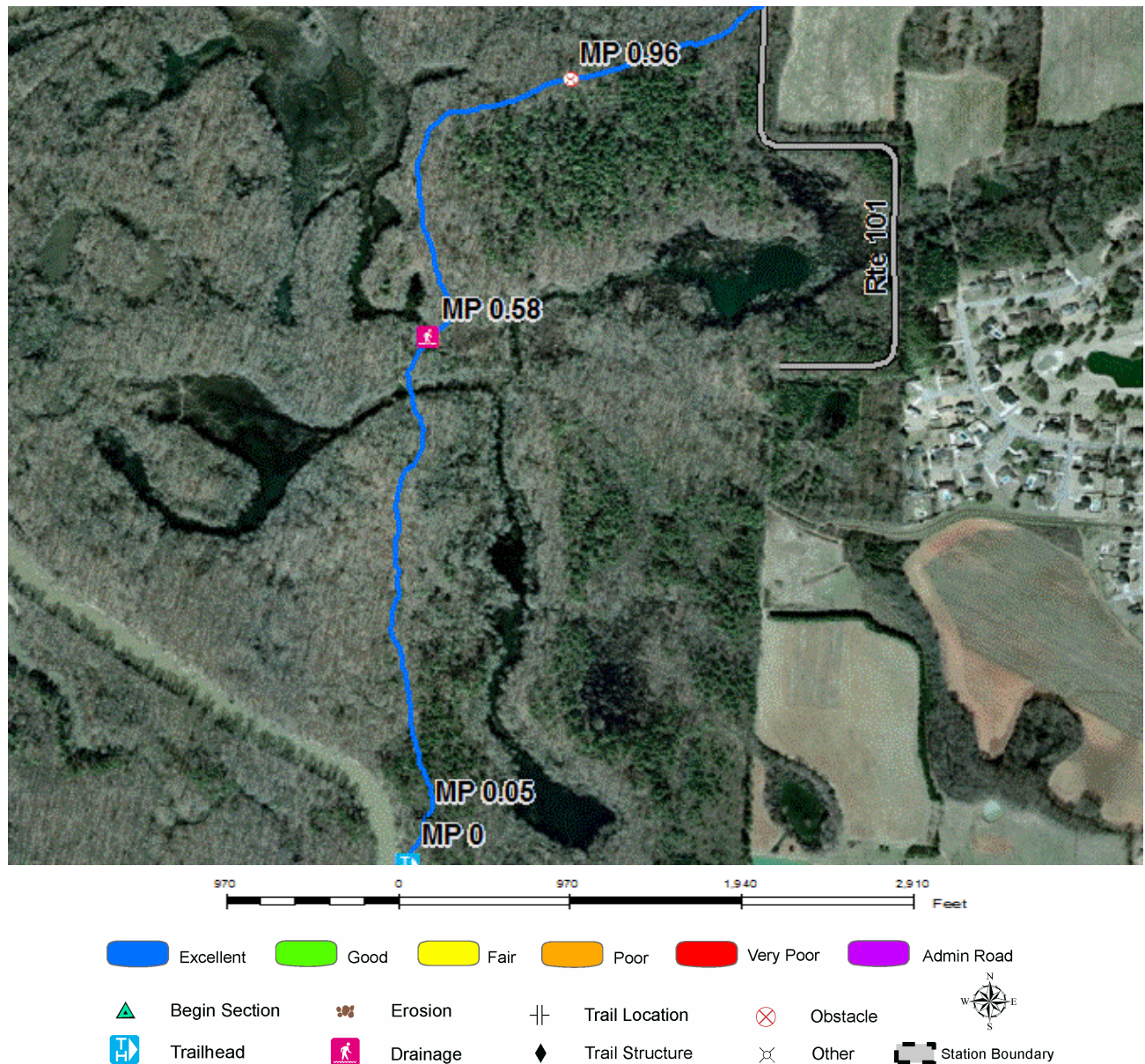
Deferred Maintenance	CRV	FCI	Condition
	\$14,302	0.00	Excellent

**NOTE TO USERS OR READERS**

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## TRAIL DEFICIENCY



**Trail Name:** Dancy Bottoms Nature Trail

**Refuge Name:** Wheeler NWR

**Trail Number:** T300

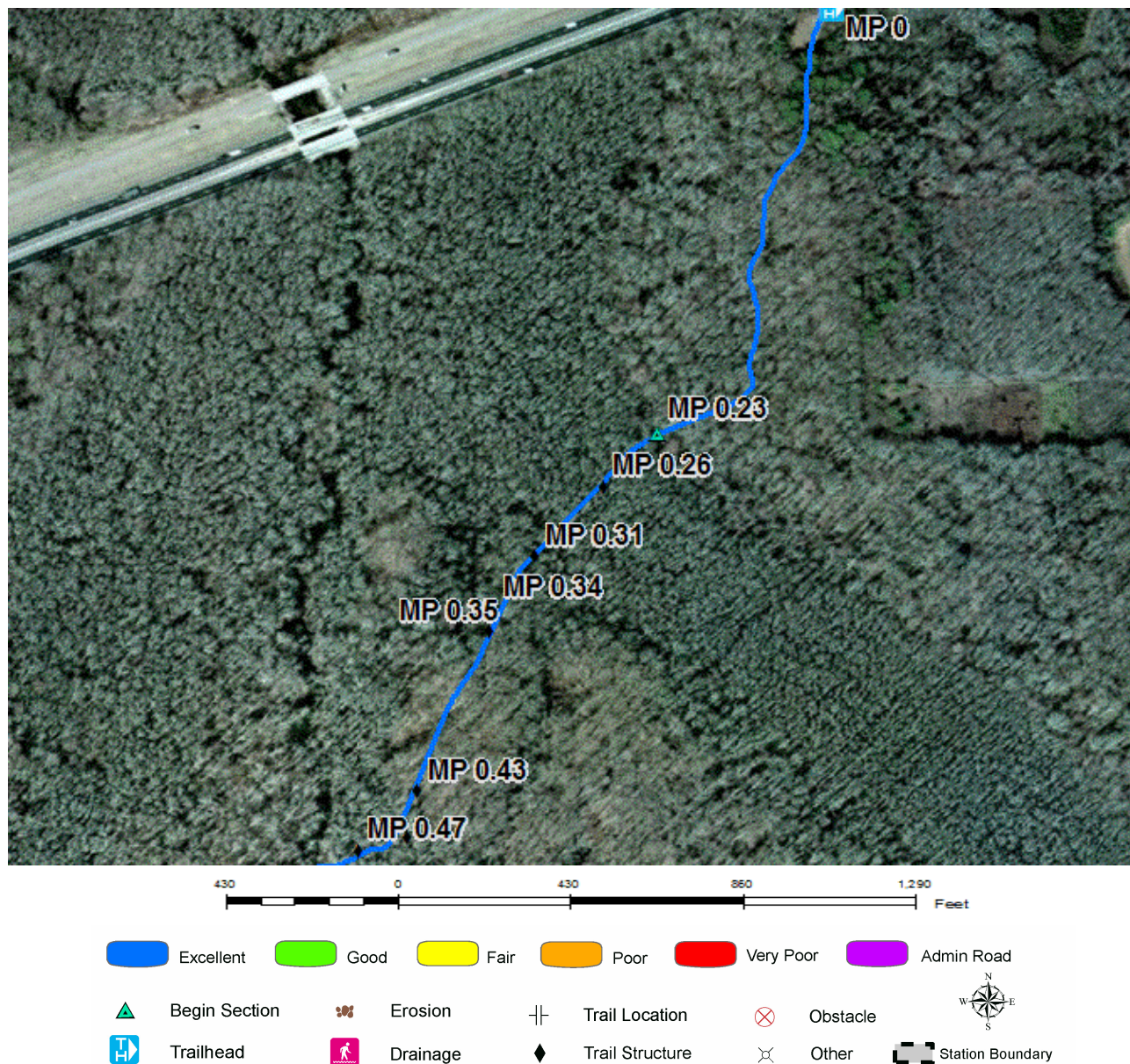
**Region:** 4

**Total Length:** 1.18 Miles

Mile Post	0.05	0.58	0.96
Section Number	001	001	001
Photo Number		WHEE_C2_0020	WHEE_C3_0710
Deficiency	Trail Location	Drainage	Obstacle
Action	Remove	Build/Add	Remove
Item	Trail: Social -If	Puncheon -If	Other
Quantity	400	80	1
Deferred Maintenance	\$0	\$731	\$0



## TRAIL DEFICIENCY



**Trail Name:** Beaver Dam Boardwalk Trail

**Refuge Name:** Wheeler NWR

**Trail Number:** T301

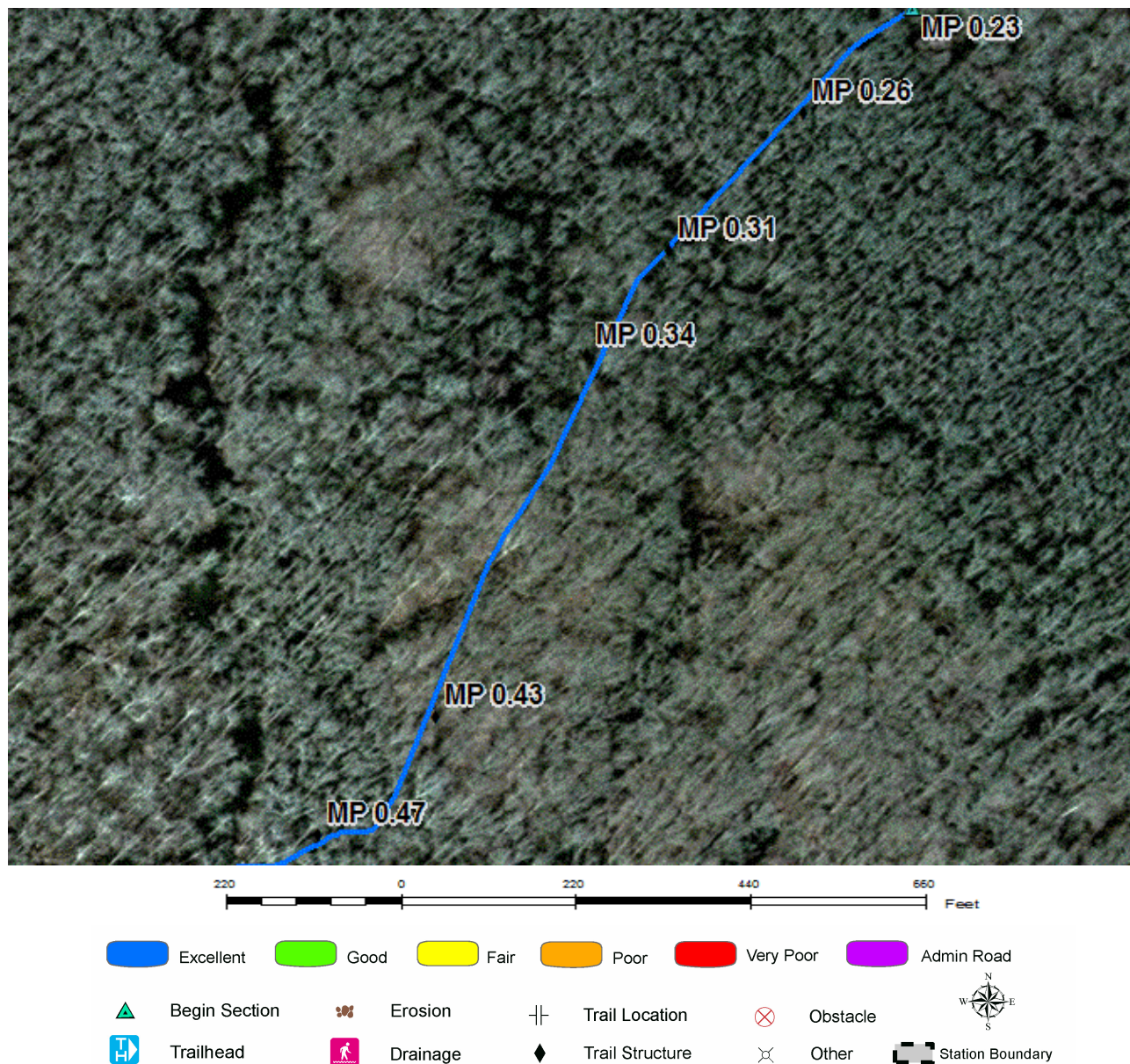
**Region:** 4

**Total Length:** 0.49 Miles

Mile Post	0.26	0.31	0.34	0.35
Section Number	002	002	002	001
Photo Number	WHEE_C3_0714	WHEE_C3_0715	WHEE_C3_0716	WHEE_C3_0717
Deficiency	Trail Structure	Trail Structure	Trail Structure	Trail Structure
Action	Repair	Repair	Repair	Repair
Item	Boardwalk -lf	Boardwalk -lf	Boardwalk -lf	Boardwalk -lf
Quantity	7	9	8	8
Deferred Maintenance	\$146	\$176	\$161	\$161



## TRAIL DEFICIENCY



**Trail Name:** Beaver Dam Boardwalk Trail

**Refuge Name:** Wheeler NWR

**Trail Number:** T301

**Region:** 4

**Total Length:** 0.49 Miles

Mile Post	0.43	0.45	0.47
Section Number	002	002	002
Photo Number	WHEE_C3_0718	WHEE_C3_0719	WHEE_C3_0720
Deficiency	Trail Structure	Trail Structure	Trail Structure
Action	Repair	Repair	Repair
Item	Boardwalk -lf	Boardwalk -lf	Boardwalk -lf
Quantity	30	6	25
Deferred Maintenance	\$499	\$130	\$423





## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T300  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0016 - MP 0.00 - Trailhead

TRAIL NUMBER: T300  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0017 - MP 0.00 - Sign



# PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T300  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0018 - MP 0.01 - Sign

TRAIL NUMBER: T300  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0707 - MP 0.05 - Sign



# PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T300  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0019 - MP 0.51 - Bridge -sf

TRAIL NUMBER: T301  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012

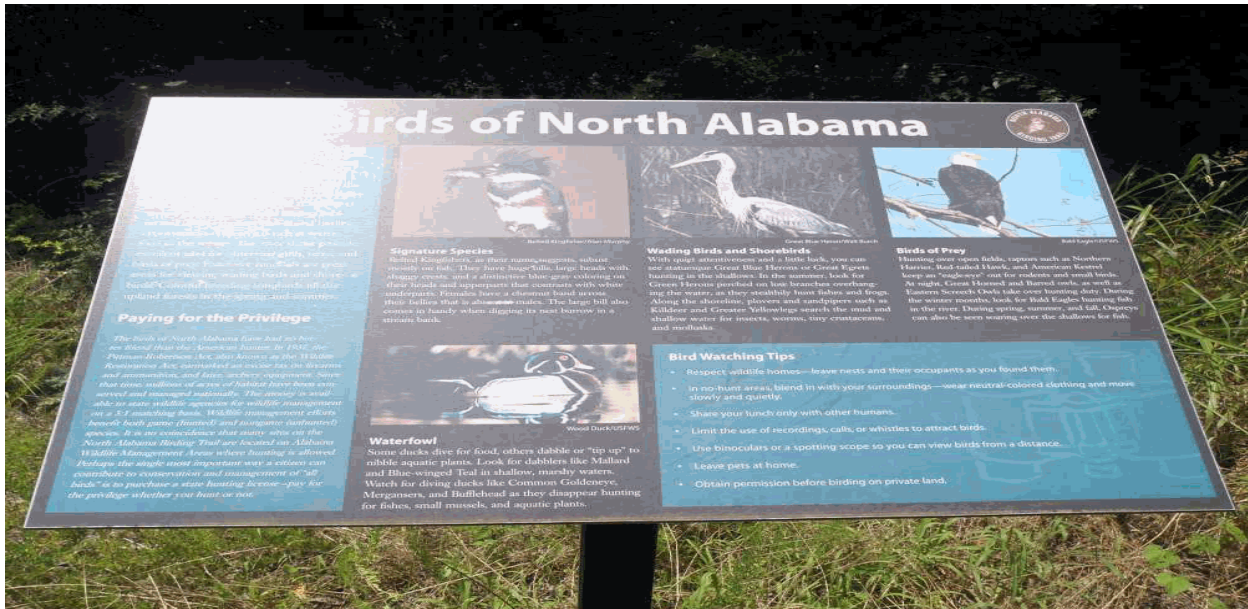


Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0711 - MP 0.00 - Sign



# PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T301  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0022 - MP 0.00 - Trailhead

TRAIL NUMBER: T301  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0023 - MP 0.00 - Sign



# PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T301  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0024 - MP 0.02 - Sign

TRAIL NUMBER: T301  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0712 - MP 0.23 - Sign



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T301  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0025 - MP 0.23 - Sign

TRAIL NUMBER: T301  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0026 - MP 0.23 - Begin Section



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T500  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0001 - MP 0.00 - Trailhead

TRAIL NUMBER: T500  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0697 - MP 0.02 - Sign



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T500  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0002 - MP 0.02 - Sign

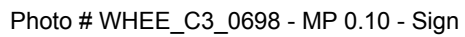
TRAIL NUMBER: T500  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0003 - MP 0.02 - Begin Section



TRAIL NUMBER: T500  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



A photograph of a dirt path leading into a dense forest. The path is light-colored and appears to be made of sand or gravel, with some shadows cast across it. The forest is lush with green foliage, including various trees and undergrowth. The path curves slightly to the right in the distance.

6 - 9



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T500  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0004 - MP 0.18 - Boardwalk -lf

TRAIL NUMBER: T500  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0005 - MP 0.23 - Begin Section



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T500  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0699 - MP 0.28 - Sign

TRAIL NUMBER: T501  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0008 - MP 0.00 - Trailhead



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T501  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0007 - MP 0.00 - Sign

TRAIL NUMBER: T501  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0700 - MP 0.01 - Sign



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T501  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0010 - MP 0.01 - Begin Section

TRAIL NUMBER: T501  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0011 - MP 0.10 - Bridge -sf



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T501  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0701 - MP 0.12 - Sign

TRAIL NUMBER: T502  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0012 - MP 0.00 - Sign



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T502  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0013 - MP 0.00 - Trailhead

TRAIL NUMBER: T502  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0703 - MP 0.01 - Sign



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T502  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0704 - MP 0.02 - Sign

TRAIL NUMBER: T502  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0014 - MP 0.02 - Sign



## PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

TRAIL NUMBER: T502  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/26/2006



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0015 - MP 0.06 - Bridge -sf

TRAIL NUMBER: T502  
STATION: Wheeler NWR  
DATE: 06/19/2012



Photo # WHEE\_C3\_0705 - MP 0.08 - Sign

# PHOTOGRAPHIC SHEET

## **A NOTE TO USERS OR READERS**

In this chapter the reader may notice photographs with dates ranging from 2006 and 2007 to 2012. This occurs because existing photographs from cycle 1 were used if no significant or noticeable changes were seen in that location at the time of the cycle 3 site visit.

The reader may also notice some photographs are used more than once. The practice of the same photograph being used for more than one feature was allowed during this cycle's data collection.

## Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

<b>Acc Info</b>	Accessibility information available at trailhead.
<b>Action</b>	Action required to correct deficiency.
<b>Admin Road</b>	Administration Road. Admin Roads signed and advertised as trails are included in the trail inventory but a condition assessment is NOT done.
<b>Alt SAMMS</b>	SAMMS number of Alternate Facility Type.
<b>Alt Type</b>	Alternate Facility Type. Trail lies on a feature such as a levee, dam, administrative road or bridge, which has a separate SAMMS number.
<b>AvgGrade</b>	The average grade of the trail (%). The average of five measurements for trails less than two miles and ten measurements for trails equal to or greater than 2 miles.
<b>AvgSlope</b>	The average cross-slope of the trail (%). The average of five measurements for trails less than two miles and ten measurements for trails equal to or greater than 2 miles.
<b>Check Dam</b>	A small dam constructed across a drainage ditch, swale, or channel to lower the speed of concentrated flows.
<b>Condition</b>	Subjective rating of trail based on Facility Condition Index (FCI): FCI $\leq$ .01 = Excellent FCI .02 - .05 = Good FCI .06 - .10 = Fair FCI .11 - .20 = Poor FCI $>$ .20 = Failed
<b>Crib Wall</b>	Retaining wall.
<b>Current Replacement Value (CRV)</b>	The value of an asset determined by the estimated cost of replacing it.
<b>Def type</b>	Deficiency Type: Trail Structure, Drainage, Erosion, Obstacle, Trail Location, Other.
<b>Deferred Maintenance (DM)</b>	Maintenance that was not performed when scheduled.



<b>Elem ID</b>	Unique identifier for each trail section: Org Code-Trail Number-Section Number.
<b>Facility Condition Index (FCI)</b>	DM/CRV
<b>Grouped Features</b>	Grouped features include non-unique signs (mileposts, interpretive signs, species identification, etc.), water bars, check dams, steps, drain and drainage dips. For any given grouped feature, a GPS point and photo are taken for the first occurrence only and the total number of features in the group are entered into the “quantity” field of the data dictionary.
<b>Info Type</b>	Type of accessibility information available at trailhead: brochure, sign or other.
<b>Item</b>	Item on which the “Action” (see above) will be performed.
<b>Manage_Use</b>	Managed use of the trail: HIKE, BIKE, NSPC (non-specified), PACK, POR (portage), SNOWSHOE, XSKI (cross-country ski), OTHER.
<b>MP</b>	Distance of a trail feature or deficiency from the Trailhead.
<b>Puncheon</b>	Log footbridge used in area of poor drainage.
<b>Raised Trail Structure</b>	Boardwalk, Turnpike, Puncheon.
<b>T Class</b>	Trail Class: I-V (see Appendix ? for trail class descriptions).
<b>Tr Desig</b>	Trail Designation: Standard (Std), National Historic Trail (NHT), National Recreation Trail (NRT), National Scenic Trail (NST).
<b>Turnpike</b>	Trail tread elevated with dirt, rock or other aggregate from parallel side ditches and held in place by logs.